

Polls blow for Thatcher

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party, which suffered a humiliating by-election defeat last week, took another blow in opinion polls published Sunday. As Britain braced for economic recession, surveys in the Sunday Times and Observer newspaper showed that the opposition Labour Party had extended its lead over the Conservatives to 16 points. The small, centrist Liberal Democrats, who humiliated Thatcher by winning the Conservative "safe seat" of Eastbourne in a by-election Oct. 19, surged ahead by two to four points to 14 per cent, according to the polls. Gloom over the economy is likely to be reinforced Tuesday when the Confederation of British Industry, an employers' group, releases a survey expected to show that economic recession has arrived. Voting intention figures in the Sunday Times Mori poll (with last month's in brackets) were: Labour 49 per cent (45), Conservatives 33 per cent (36), Liberal Democrats 14 per cent (12). Harris poll figures in the Observer were: Labour 48 per cent (46), Conservatives 32 per cent (38), Liberal Democrats 14 per cent (10).

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Baker urges EC to speed up aid

ROME (Petra) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has asked the European Community (EC) to accelerate the process of extending urgent aid to Middle Eastern countries most affected by the Gulf crisis, which are Jordan, Turkey and Egypt, according to the French News Agency (AFP). In a letter sent to Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis, Baker suggested that the date of paying the assistance which has been included in the EC's 1991 budget be advanced. The EC assistance will be 1.5 billion European Currency Units (\$2 billion), of which one third will be given from the EC and the rest from the EC member states. Baker stressed in his letter the great difficulties the three Mideastern countries were facing as a result of implementing the U.N. embargo imposed on Iraq.

Arafat sends Gulf proposals to Moscow, Rome and Beijing

TUNIS (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has sent ideas and proposals for a political solution to the Gulf crisis to the Soviet Union, Italy and China, the Palestinian news agency WAFA said on Saturday. The message to Moscow, handed to the Soviet ambassador in Tunis Saturday, contains ideas and proposals for a solution to the Gulf crisis within an Arab framework under international control, the agency said. The message to Chinese leaders also contained idea "that could serve as a basis for joint international action to reach practical solutions of the Gulf crisis."

Iraq: Egypt rejected oil-for-work offer

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Sunday Egypt had rejected a suggestion that Baghdad should pay the salaries of expatriate Egyptian workers with oil or any other commodity Cairo wanted. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted a Finance Ministry source as saying Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had spurred the offer and an alternative that Cairo should pay the workers in Egyptian pounds which would be refunded by Iraq once U.N. sanctions were lifted. The source told INA that both proposals were still on the table.

OIC calls on India to end violence

JEDDAH (AP) — The 45-member organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) called on the government of India Sunday to put an end to violence against Indian Muslims. "The OIC has been following with deep concern the excesses to which the Muslims of India are being subjected," the organisation said in a statement. It noted that the condition of Indian Muslims had "deteriorated" as a result of violence by Hindu extremists who want to demolish the Ayodhya mosque in Uttar Pradesh and erect a Hindu temple in its place (see page 8).

Hizbullahists to keep guns to fight Israel

BEIRUT (R) — A top cleric of the Iranian-backed Hizbullah (Party of God) said Sunday a move to disband Lebanon's armed militias in and around Beirut would not affect his group. "Hizbullah is not a militia... it is a resistance movement against Israel," Hizbullah cleric Sheikh Naim Kassem told Beirut's Al-Diyar newspaper. "We're not at all harmed by the decision to disband the militias. It doesn't concern us. We don't consider ourselves victims because we never searched and never will search for a street corner or a road to control..." he added. Kassem said it was too early to discuss the disarming of his 5,000-strong group, armed and financed by Iran.

Levy in Paris

PARIS (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy arrived in France Sunday for an official visit after saying he was certain he would argue with French leaders about the Arab-Israeli conflict. Levy made no statement on arrival in Paris but told reporters before leaving Israel: "I have no doubt there will be an argument."

Intense Soviet effort to resolve Gulf crisis

Primakov holds extended talks in Baghdad after delaying U.N. vote ● Gorbachev, Mitterrand meet in Paris

Combined agency dispatches

INTENSE Soviet diplomatic activity was afoot Sunday in what was seen as an intensified effort by Moscow to resolve the Gulf crisis. An envoy of President Mikhail Gorbachev was holding talks in Baghdad after Moscow delayed a new Security Council resolution against Iraq, and Gorbachev himself was discussing the Gulf situation with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris.

However, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze rejected assertions that the visit to Baghdad of Gorbachev envoy Yevgeny Primakov was the "last hope" to avert a war in the Gulf. And indications that Primakov was sticking to his original plans to travel to Saudi Arabia Monday were interpreted as a Soviet determination to continue its peace mission.

Primakov had an hour-long meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Soviet officials were tight-lipped about Primakov's meeting with Saddam and two separate sessions with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz.

"No comment. No meeting with the gentlemen of the press. No news conference," one Soviet official told a pack of reporters following Primakov.

However, a Soviet diplomat told the AP the talks "centred on efforts by the Soviet Union to find a diplomatic and peaceful settlement to the three-month-old crisis."

After the Primakov-Saddam meeting, there was no indication of any breakthrough. Iraqi Information Minister Latif Jassim postponed a briefing for newsmen from Sunday evening to Monday.

The Soviet news agency TASS said Primakov gave Saddam a letter on the Gulf crisis and bilateral relations but gave no details.

"Saddam and Primakov discussed the Gulf crisis and the results of Primakov's recent Western tour, designed to find a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Kuwait conflict," TASS said with no further elaboration.

Pravda quoted sources as saying Soviet officials will also meet Yasser Arafat, who arrived in Baghdad to brief the Soviet envoy on his own latest proposals for settlement.

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Israel lifts ban on Palestinians, waters down massacre report

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians streamed back to their jobs in Israel through a tight security screen Sunday after the occupation authorities lifted a four-day closure of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Some found they had lost their jobs to Israelis, while others were turned back at roadblocks under new orders barring Palestinians with a record of resistance activity.

"We will increase the list of those not allowed into Israel," Shmuel Goren, coordinator in the occupied territories, said Israel Radio.

Some 8,000 Palestinians carry

green identity cards that ban them from Israel as "security" risks, according to the daily Haaretz.

The closure was prompted by a wave of Arab-Jewish clashes inside Israel, and Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens warned that Israel's dependence on Arab labour.

Some Palestinians also welcomed it, saying by forcing Arabs to fend for themselves, it could be a step towards an independent Palestinian economy.

Israel's cabinet meanwhile endorsed a report saying police were justified in opening fire at Palestinians in Jerusalem but ministers acknowledged Sunday

(Continued on page 5)

EC restates stand on Palestinians, says no talks with Iraq on nationals

ROME (Agencies) — West European leaders Sunday deplored the situation in the occupied territories as "untenable" and reiterated support for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

At a two-day summit dominated by the Gulf crisis and European monetary and political union, the leaders of the 12 European Community (EC) nations also drafted a separate declaration on the Middle East. They singled out Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian issue.

The lack of any progress in the search for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a source of deep concern to the

community and its member states, who are determined to encourage all efforts to promote dialogue between the parties directly concerned," the statement said.

The leaders pledged to work for a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and Palestinian problem in line with relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions. They reaffirmed their backing for holding an international peace conference "at an appropriate time."

On the Palestinians, the statement urged Israel to comply with international obligations on protection of civilians and to cooperate with the United Nations.

Referring to the recent mas-

sacre of Palestinian demonstrators, the statement said: "The tragic events that have occurred in (occupied) Jerusalem show once more that the status quo in the occupied territories is untenable."

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They expressed the hope for national reconciliation in Lebanon after 15 years of civil war, including full restoration of the country's sovereignty and withdrawal of all foreign troops.

On the Gulf crisis, the EC

expressed the hope that the American public neither has the staying power to wait out a prolonged stalemate nor the stomach to accept high casualties in a war to break the deadlock.

But opinion polls suggest that it may be wrong, despite a steady erosion of support for Bush and street demonstrations last week in which thousands of Americans demanded an end to the U.S. military presence in the Gulf.

They chanted "Hell, no... we won't go, we won't fight for Texaco," a rallying cry which invited comparisons with the 1960s peace movement that helped accelerate Washington

and London's withdrawal from Vietnam.

However, public opinion polls do not bear out predictions of a massive swing against American involvement in the Gulf and several surveys indicate attitudes that belie conventional wisdom about the fickleness of the American public.

Such findings are consistent with early warnings by political pundits that maintaining public support for the biggest military deployment since the Vietnam war would turn into a thorny problem for the Bush administration.

The United States now has more than 210,000 troops in and around the Arabian Peninsula and Defence Secretary



Lieutenant-General Ramon Hernandez Paredes, Spanish army chief of staff, greets Raisa Gorbachev as Mikhail Gorbachev looks on

along with King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain. The Gorbachevs left Madrid Sunday evening for Paris.

U.S. commander predicts 'long' war, 'awful' casualties

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

The commander of U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia has urged Americans to be patient for sanctions against Iraq to take hold, warning that a ground war in the Middle East could "last a long, long time and kill an awful lot of people."

In an interview with the Atlanta Journal-Constitution published Sunday, General H. Norman Schwarzkopf said the U.N. sanctions imposed against Baghdad shortly after its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait appeared to be taking effect.

But he said he does not believe that U.S. air power, acknowledged as vastly superior, could score a knockout punch.

Schwarzkopf, twice wounded in Vietnam, said he recalled several occasions when a combination of air bombardment and sustained artillery barrages still failed to dislodge Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops from villages.

Schwarzkopf said he and Saudi Lieutenant General Prince Khalid Ben Sultan would coordinate battle plans. As in Vietnam, the host country's military leaders would

command their troops and American generals will command American forces.

Asked to compete a potential desert war with Vietnam, Schwarzkopf said, "to the soldier on the ground it is going to seem exactly the same."

"We have developed more sophisticated ways to destroy things. It will certainly be a much more lethal battlefield. But to the fundamental soldier on the ground, it is going to be a question of life and death. It is going to be the profanity that is war."

In Honolulu, Hawaii, President George Bush asserted Saturday that Iraq was beginning to realize that the forces facing it were "deadly serious" and that this enhanced prospects for a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis.

"I think as (Iraq) sees the U.S. command their troops and American generals will command American forces.

(Continued on page 5)

Saudia terminates Jordanian pilots

By Rabah Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Saudi authorities have terminated the services of 21 Jordanian pilots, 19 of them seconded by Royal Jordanian to work for Saudia for five years under contracts renewed every two years, informed sources said Sunday.

The Jordanian pilots were informed verbally Thursday that Saudia will stop paying their salaries as of November and attributed the measure to a drop in the number of Saudia flights, according to the sources.

RJ officials said they had made contacts with the chief pilot of Saudia, Jazza's Al Gharem, to enquire about the situation and were told that he had no information about this subject.

The RJ officials said, they had not been informed officially or unofficially of any such measures or decisions. But sources said that RJ Director General Husam Abu Ghazaleh, who is now in Geneva to take part in meetings of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation was expected to discuss this subject with his Saudi counterpart.

The Saudi move against Jordanian pilots is the latest in a series of measures adopted by Saudi Arabia against Jordan in the wake of the Gulf crisis which found the two countries at odds over the approach to the crisis.

Saudi Arabia has cut off oil supplies to Jordan, expelled Jordanian diplomats and embassy staff, banned the entry of Jordanian trucks into Saudi territory, and halted imports from Jordan. In addition, it has also either delayed or refused transhipment of cargo bound for Jordan through Saudi ports.

Mubarak supports Gulf force increase

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak Sunday supported an increase in American and other military forces in the Gulf against Iraq.

Mubarak also said he was ready to send more troops as well as Egyptian military planes to Saudi Arabia if they were requested.

"With peace efforts, that does not mean we can relax military action," Mubarak told a press conference.

When asked if he saw a contradiction between peace talks and the United States proposing to send another 100,000 troops to join its forces in the region. But he said that experts of Kamel's ministry said it "was capable of manufacturing the needed solutions."

Chalabi has been oil minister since 1986. Before that he had a long career as an oil administrator including a stint as head of Iraq's national oil company.

Kamel is a son-in-law of Saddam. Chalabi had said rationing of petrol and lubricants was necessary because of a shortage of the imported additives.

He said he was dismissed after experts told Saddam that stocks of imported additives used in refining petrol were much greater than previously believed and that they could be produced locally.

"It appeared as a result of discussions that the Oil Ministry had introduced rationing on the basis of erroneous information," the radio said.

The agency said "a republican decree" relieved Chalabi of his post. It said another decree appointed Hussein Kamel, minister of industry and military industrialisation, as acting oil minister.

The agency said that at a meeting of the Oil Ministry it was discovered that the Oil Ministry made miscalculations about the amount of chemical additives necessary to refine crude oil into gasoline and other products such as lubricants.

"It was evident that they (chemicals) were enough for double the period estimated by the Oil Ministry," the agency said. It said that experts of Kamel's ministry said it "was capable of manufacturing the needed solutions."

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"If we are requested to join (in an Arab force) we are ready. But we do not impose ourselves on anyone," Mubarak said. "There is a great conviction in the Gulf and even from the Americans that the U.S. presence will not solve the problem. Everyone is convinced that the security of the Gulf must be Arab."

The Egyptian president declined to give details on the talks. Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov is having in Iraq and other countries in the region. But he said Egypt supported "any good proposal" which would peacefully resolve the issue.

He said Algerian President Chadli Benjedid was also trying to find a peaceful solution. Earlier Sunday Mubarak received a message from Benjedid.

Mubarak stressed that Algeria's efforts were also based on the principle of a complete "Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and the return of the 'legitimate' Kuwaiti regime."

The crisis has created a big rift between Egypt and Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Mubarak expressed reserved anger at Jordan's position, and comments in which His Majesty King Hussein blamed Mubarak for issuing an early condemnation of the invasion and spoiling the possibility of a peaceful and speedy solution.

"I don't know what to do with King Hussein. I did not want to talk about this but he started," Mubarak said. "He talks of how my condemnation aggravated the brothers (in Iraq). Is a bit of a problem to destroy the future of a nation?"

He also attacked PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's supporting position of Iraq, referring to the Israeli-occupied territories?

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American views on military intervention remained remarkably stable: A Gallup poll conducted on Aug. 9 and 10 found that 42 per cent favoured combat against Iraq if it refused to withdraw from Kuwait. On Oct. 18 and 19, those in favour accounted for 45 per cent.

PLO official sees brighter prospects for Gulf solution

BAGHDAD (AP) — A high-ranking official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Sunday that prospects for a peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis had brightened and urged France and the Soviet Union to help achieve that goal.

Yasser Abed Rabbo predicted a positive outcome to the current visit of Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov to Iraq, but warned the United States against seeking further U.N. action against Iraq. Primakov held talks with Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein Sunday, who as a gesture towards France, is freeing virtually all French nationals held in Iraq and Kuwait.

"The recent political moves give us hope that a political settlement of the Gulf crisis has become more possible than in the past," Abed Rabbo told the Associated Press. "and we expect that the Gorbachev-Mitterrand summit will come up with new ideas which will certainly help to advance the chances of settlement to all problems in the region, on top of which is the Palestinian issue."

Abed Rabbo is a member of the PLO's Executive Committee and headed the PLO delegation in the 1988-1990 dialogue with the U.S. government.

"The PLO has received assurances that the Soviet-French summit will open the door wide for a political solution and we believe that the outcome will reflect positively on other parties concerned," he said, referring to Gorbachev's meeting with French

President Francois Mitterrand in Paris, scheduled for later Sunday.

The PLO official said it is imperative that all parties concerned in the crisis begin a dialogue on the solution, and added that the PLO had received "encouraging signals" from the Soviet Union on its current diplomatic initiative.

"But to help avoid a breakdown of the current diplomatic process, it is imperative that the United States should stop all its moves aimed at forcing the Security Council to adopt resolutions against Iraq," he said, referring to U.S. moves to obtain a new resolution against Iraq that would require it to pay war reparations.

The Soviet Union Saturday persuaded the United States to agree to a 48-hour delay on a Security Council vote to provide breathing space for the diplomatic initiative.

"Such a resolution could only be interpreted as a further attempt by Washington to carry out its aggression against Iraq, which will certainly help to perpetuate the Israeli occupation of our land and encourage Israel to carry out more crimes against the Palestinians," the PLO official said, referring to the massacre of Palestinians by Israeli police earlier this month.

Arafat was due to meet with Primakov, their fourth such meeting this month, after the Soviet's talks with Saddam. Rabbo said Arafat would urge Primakov to get talks with all parties underway.

Israel will not keep promise to U.S.'

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli newspaper said Sunday Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had promised right-wing allies to ignore promises made to the United States on Jewish settlement in the occupied territories.

The daily *Ma'ariv* said Shamir made the pledge to the small ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party — advocates of Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip — before he narrowly won a confidence vote in parliament.

Shamir said he would not honour his promise to report the scope of government investment in settling Jews across the "green line" separating Israel and the occupied territories, *Ma'ariv* said.

A spokesman for Shamir said he had no information on the newspaper charge.

Foreign Minister David Levy made the promise to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in a letter to secure \$400 million in U.S. loan guarantees for housing Soviet immigrants.

"If I'm accused of calling the prophet's wives whores, I didn't do it, you know," he said in a U.S. television news programme Sunday night, referring to a passage in the book interpreted as particularly blasphemous.

Rushdie described the inflammatory section of the novel as taking place in a brothel in an imaginary city, where prostitutes take the names of the prophet's wives.

In his first U.S. television interview since becoming a fugitive from Muslim fundamentalists 20 months ago, the 43-year-old writer spoke from a secret location outside London, where he is guarded by Britain's Scotland Yard's special branch.

In apparent reference to a recent Indian musical film in which he is portrayed as a devil in surrealist clothing, Rushdie said, "I am not this kind of creature with horns and tail that I've been painted."

Rushdie said his days in hiding could not be compared to the isolated lives of Western hostages being held in the Middle East.

"Youth of the Arab Nation

should raise the Arab nationalist banner above the Arab land and adopt Islamic morals and stay far away from the Islamic discourse which is trickery."

Rushdie told an annual conference of his revolutionary committee, the guardians of his 1969 revolution, that Islamic fundamentalists were imposters seeking to exploit Islam to take power.

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Rushdie said his days in hiding could not be compared to the isolated lives of Western hostages being held in the Middle East.

"If someone intervenes (politically) in the name of God he is considered to be sanctioning lies and his head should be cut off," Rushdie told thousands of chanting supporters Friday night.

On Saturday, Egyptian police killed two militants in Cairo gun-

battle and arrested more than six other as suspects in the killing two weeks ago of Parliamentary Speaker Rifaat Mahjoub.

Fundamentalist parties are the strongest opposition force in virtually all of Libya's Arab neighbours.

In Algeria, the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) won local elections last June and is a strong candidate for national power in the first multi-party parliamentary elections set for early next year.

In Tunisia the banned Al Nahda party is far ahead of the secular opposition and in Egypt, the birthplace of the Muslim Brotherhood, Muslim militants have launched several attacks on police and assassination attempts in a drive to transform the country into a purely Islamic state.

"If there was a president of the republic who ruled in the name of God and after four years there were elections and he did not run that would mean the rule of God fell."

Western diplomats said there was no evidence that Libyan fundamentalists posed a serious challenge to Qadhafi's system of government but the fact he so often denounced them suggested they were a major concern.

Qadhafi is himself a practising Muslim and the country observes many aspects of Islamic law including a ban on alcohol.

He specifically denounced Sayed Qutub, a pioneering Egyptian thinker often considered the father of modern fundamentalism.

Qutub's followers often clashed with former Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser, Arab nationalism's greatest figure.

"Is it reasonable that someone like Sayed Qutub rule Egypt and it is reasonable that Egypt would build factories and farms and the high dams under his rule as he plots and falsifies the Koran to reach power?" Qadhafi asked.

Qadhafi blasts Islamic fundamentalists

TRIPOLI (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has launched another scathing attack on Muslim fundamentalism, apparently alarmed by its growth in neighbouring countries.

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"Is it reasonable that someone like Sayed Qutub rule Egypt and it is reasonable that Egypt would build factories and farms and the high dams under his rule as he plots and falsifies the Koran to reach power?" Qadhafi asked.

Qadhafi blasts Islamic fundamentalists

TRIPOLI (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has launched another scathing attack on Muslim fundamentalism, apparently alarmed by its growth in neighbouring countries.

Qadhafi told an annual conference of his revolutionary committee, the guardians of his 1969 revolution, that

19,533 cross into Jordan, 5,298 leave in two days

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 19,533 people crossed into Jordan from Iraq and Kuwait, including 6,240 Jordanians, 10,577 Arab nationals and 2,436 foreigners, during the period from Oct. 25 to Oct. 27. The number of those who left during the reported period is 5,298.

The border police authorities said that the number of those arriving in Jordan through the restricted border post totalled 19,492, including 2,833 Jordanians, 3,408 non-Jordanian Arabs and 951 foreigners.

The sources said that the number of people living in transit camps ranges between 204 and 205. The sources said that Jordan

had done its best to ensure that the evacuees were conveniently housed and to overcome the supply and administrative issues which surfaced with the massive influx of evacuees during August and September.

On the other hand, the Evacuees Welfare Committee said it was improving the conditions of temporary camps, by constructing compounds to replace the tents, to cope with any emergency resulting from the Gulf crisis, and the possible arrival of new evacuees.

Competent sources said the tented camps were not fit for the desert climate which is very cold at night, particularly in winter. The sources said that Jordan

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Turkey

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable to Turkish President Turgut Ozal, congratulating him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on Turkey's national day. The King wished President Ozal continued good health and happiness and Turkish people further progress and prosperity.

Rawabdeh visits housing projects' sites

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, who is also chairman of the board of the Urban Development Department, Sunday visited a number of proposed sites for carrying out new housing projects, benefiting low-income categories. The visit took him to Ain Al Basra, Yaqqa, Jwaideh, Taybeh and Marka where new housing projects will be implemented. Director General of the Housing Corporation Yousef Riyassat said that the department's technical staff had undertaken the necessary field studies to select the best sites for the projects whose implementation will start as of the end of 1991. The sites were selected in accordance with the need and the availability of basic services.

Soviet delegation visits Industrial Estate

AMMAN (Petra) — A Soviet delegation, currently taking part in the meetings of the joint Jordanian-Soviet Committee held in Amman, Sunday visited Amman Industrial Estate where it met with Fayed Suheimat, director general of Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation. Suheimat briefed the delegation on the corporation's establishment and objectives and reviewed the facilities it provides to investors. The delegation toured a JD 4.5 million factory for producing canned chicken. The project, a joint Danish-Jordanian venture, provided 100 job opportunities for Jordanians.

Jordan attends meeting on medicine

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan took part in a five-day regional meeting on medicine held in the Libyan capital of Tripoli. Taking part in the meeting, which discussed means of drawing up national medicine policies and basis of registering medicine, were representatives for Jordan, Libya, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Iran. The meeting was called for by the World Health Organisation. Jordan's representative to the meeting, Nasef Hamamreh, who is head of the Ministry of Health's pharmacists and pharmaceuticals control department, presented a working paper on methods followed by Jordan in purchasing, storing, dispensing, pricing and controlling medicine in Jordan.

JNRCs receives \$20,000 aid

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCs) Sunday received a cheque for \$20,000 as a contribution from the ANERA (American Near East Refugee Aid) to JNRCs' humanitarian efforts and services. The cheque was presented to Dr. Ahmad Abu Qousa, president of JNRCs, by ANERA President Peter Gubser who paid tribute to JNRCs for its humanitarian services to the evacuees. The ANERA contribution came from 500 American citizens who responded to ANERA call to provide help to JNRCs. The International League of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society earlier decided to send to Iraq medicine worth 150,000 Swiss francs and not 15,000 as erroneously reported by the Jordan Times Sunday.

Students from Kuwait allowed for tawjih

AMMAN (Petra) — Education Minister Mohammad Hamdan Sunday allowed Jordanian students returning from Kuwait, in the second secondary grade, to sit for tawjih exam, according to the Jordanian curricula. According to the decision, these students can sit for the tawjih examination at government or private schools.

Municipal council reformed

MAFRAO (Petra) — Mafrao Governor Fayed Al Abbadi decided to reform 'Ein Bani Hassan' municipal council. The council will be chaired by Abdul Karim Khaddam and will include as members Mohammad Mmeizel, Mahdi Al Massi, Ali Qasem, Ahmad Muz'el, Khalif Humeidan, Eid Awad, Mansour Odeh, Mohammad Khaza'leh and Marzouq Khaza'leh.

Geography centre holds scientific day

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre Monday holds a scientific day on the application of remote sensing in Jordan. The centre will display the new technologies it acquired, and the use of space photos in drawing maps, gaining information on natural resources and other applications.

Teachers of music start course

AMMAN (Petra) — A specialised course for teachers of music started Saturday at the National Music Conservatory of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation. A total of 16 teachers from various schools will be taking part in the three-day course which is organised by the conservatory in cooperation with the Goethe Institute. Supervising the two courses will be Nuri Rehebani, a composer, pianist and conductor.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition of children's paintings at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.).

Exhibition entitled "Science and Technology Parks" at the British Council.

FILM

French film entitled "Un grand amour de Beethoven" at the French Cultural Centre - 3:00 p.m.

350 reinstated in jobs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Civil Service Commission (CSC) which recruits employees for government offices has succeeded in reinstating 350 former employees in their jobs after they had been dismissed from office for political reasons. CSC is continuing efforts to reinstate the remaining 200 employees dismissed, according to the Director of CSC's Planning and Employment Department Salem Bader.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Salem said that the measure was being taken upon directives by Prime Minister Mudar Badran who had pledged before Parliament to reemploy all those who had been dismissed for political reasons and had applied again for the jobs.

Salem told Petra that government departments around the country this year had 5,430 vacancies of which 2,000 have been filled during the current fiscal year. He said the total number of vacancies for the Ministry of Education's schools this year was

1,700; for the Health Ministry there had been 730 vacancies while another 1,000 vacancies were distributed among other ministries and organisations.

Vacancies so far filled are: 1,430 in schools, 320 in the Health Ministry and 250 in the remaining organisations. Since the beginning of 1990 CSC has received 7,533 new applications by job seekers, raising to 37,502 the number of applications accumulating at the CSC offices. Salem said.

Salem noted that the applicants are graduates from universities, community colleges and high schools.

"By shunning types of work other than those available at government offices, the job seekers remain unemployed and the CSC can only offer jobs to a limited number of people according to the need at various ministries and to priority, he said.

The unemployment in Jordan, he said, started in the early 1980s and has aggravated since then

due to the general economic recession, not only in Jordan but also in Arab countries nearby, and due to the return of expatriates from the Gulf states.

He noted that while the country has a surplus of job-seekers with diplomas and university degrees in the art stream: literary subjects, Arabic and Islamic education, there is a shortage of specialised people in scientific subjects and vocational training.

Salem said that appointment in government offices had been declining over the past three years. Twenty-five per cent of the applicants had jobs in 1987, dropping to 15 per cent in 1988 and 10 per cent in 1989 as the number of applicants grows every year, Salem explained.

Salem noted that the applicants are graduates from universities, community colleges and high schools.

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The unemployment in Jordan, he said, started in the early 1980s and has aggravated since then

New parliamentary coalition formed

AMMAN (Petra) — An Arab Islamic coalition comprising 35 Lower House of Parliament members was formed Sunday to replace the national Islamic Bloc.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Deputy Issa Al Abdal Al Reimoni said the coalition included 42 deputies, 22 from the Islamic Bloc, eight from the independent Muslim group, seven liberals and five nationalists.

Reimoni added that the coalition would do its utmost to address issues like unemployment, prices, and the economic situation in general, and to ensure the independence of the three powers: the legislative, the executive, and the judiciary.

He pointed out that the coalition would fight all forms of corruption and will strive to safeguard general freedom which have been provided for in the Constitution.

Reimoni alluded to the possibility of expanding the coalition membership to 46 or more depending on the results of consultations currently under way with deputies belonging to other blocs and with independents.

The coalition's decisions will be taken by a majority of three-fourths, so that no bloc can dominate or control any other bloc in the coalition, Petra said.

ESCW meeting tackles impact of Gulf crisis on region

AMMAN (J.T.) — The U.N. Economic and Social Committee for Western Asia (ESCW) Sunday opened a three-day meeting at Amman Plaza Hotel to review programmes in the Arab region in 1990 and 1991 and to review activities carried out since the beginning of the Gulf crisis in August.

The ESCWA staff meeting is expected to prepare studies on the adverse consequences of the Gulf crisis on countries in the region, according to ESCWA officials. They said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the coming programme of activities for 1991 covers projects in agriculture, food security, industrial development, advancement of science and technology and the best means of exploring and utilising natural resources and improving the environmental conditions as well as social development.

They said that other subjects covered trade, transport and communications schemes involving neighbouring Arab states.

According to ESCWA officials, the meeting in Amman will prepare the ground for the 16th meeting of the ESCWA committee in the first quarter of 1991, which will be attended by concerned ministers in the Western Asia region. In that meeting, the committee will do an overall revision of projects and decide on those to be given priority, the officials said.

The meetings in Amman are chaired by Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jaber, ESCWA's executive secretary general.

ESCW recently opened a liaison office in Amman since its Baghdad-based headquarters are not functioning due to the Gulf crisis.

Abdul Jaber said last week that ESCWA would organise an Arab regional conference on environmental development in May 1991 in cooperation with the Arab League and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in order to reach a pan-Arab environment strategy to be submitted to the world conference on the environment to be held in Brazil in 1992.

ESCW, he said, will also carry out three projects. The first concerns desertification in the Arab region, the second concerns the protection of the environment and the third relates to industries in the Arab region and their negative effects on the Arab environment.

'Media reports are groundless and designed to put

pressure on the government to change stand on Gulf'

Ambassador denies famine in Sudan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Sudan is not suffering from famine as being reported in the western media, but the country currently faces shortages in some types of food supplies and the government in Khartoum has been managing the problem, Sudan's Ambassador to Jordan Abdulla Jibarai said in a statement Sunday.

The Sudanese government has now grown more than a million acres with wheat for this season, and the corn production is expected to meet the country's needs, said the ambassador in his statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The western media have been repeating that several million people in Sudan are facing starvation, but these reports are groundless and they are designed to put pressure on the government to change its national stand with regard to the Gulf crisis," said the ambassador.

"Furthermore, Sudan is now hosting three million refugees from neighbouring countries and

they constitute a heavy burden on the country which has not yet requested any assistance to provide them with food; but Sudan does not say no to any humanitarian assistance for the refugees," Jibarai noted.

The ambassador said that little rain had fallen in certain areas of Sudan, but "this does not necessarily cause a famine panic because surpluses in other provinces will bridge the gap."

Referring to the Gulf crisis, he said that 300,000 Sudanese nationals were still in Kuwait and Iraq, and they are there on their own free will. He said that around 109,000 Sudanese have returned home since the crisis began last August.

The ambassador said that Sudan is estimated to lose some \$1.7 billion as a result of the Gulf crisis, but it will adhere to its national stand vis-a-vis the Arab causes.

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be the losers."

300 detained

Egypt has detained about 300 Muslim fundamentalists for questioning following Saturday's arrest of some of the alleged killers of the parliamentary speaker, security sources said Sunday.

They said the latest raids were mounted nationwide but concentrated on the fundamentalist

haunts of Assuit and Minya in Upper Egypt and on the oasis town of Fayoum southwest of Cairo.

Six Muslim militants were arrested in dawn raids Saturday on hideouts of members of the outlawed Jihad (holy war) group in Cairo and nearby Giza, the Interior Ministry said.

It said some had planned or taken part in the Oct. 12 assassination of Rifaat Mahjoub, with foreign support.



(Continued from page 1) In the second half of August, 68 per cent thought Bush should pay more attention to a diplomatic solution, an attitude that remained virtually unchanged. The October figure: 69 per cent.

Similarly, 80 per cent believed in August that Bush should wait to see if economic and diplomatic sanctions were effective instead of ordering quick military action.

Bush was responding to reports at the weekend that former French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson had secret talks with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, prompting Baghdad to announce the release of the French nationals.

French President Francois Mitterrand denied that his government had insinuated contacts with

the French nationals.

It is not clear if the French

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Jordan Times

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The word from Craxi

LAST week's call by the U.N. secretary general's personal representative on the external debt crisis for a moratorium, restructuring or outright cancellation of the international debt of countries hardest hit by the Gulf conflict is one of the most appropriate ideas forwarded yet on how to help those countries cope with the aftereffects of the U.N.-imposed sanctions against Iraq. In his report to the U.N. General Assembly, Bettino Craxi, former prime minister of Italy and the U.N. official who also undertook the task of gauging the negative effects of the Gulf crisis, said that the Gulf situation had dramatically compounded the staggering debt burden of countries most affected by the developments in the region. The situation, Craxi reported, "has presented new problems and introduced negative factors" to the debt burden.

While it is premature to test the reaction of the international community to the views and recommendations of the U.N. representative, in view of the fact that his report was submitted only few days ago, there is every sign that one or two permanent members of the Security Council may decide to play politics with his findings. This they might do to further their own selfish reasons and objectives in the Middle East region as a whole.

Every report on the economic consequences of the crisis and the economic sanctions applied against Iraq puts Jordan on the top of the list of countries most severely affected by these developments. The extent of the damage to the Kingdom has been repeatedly measured as virtually wiping out nearly half of Jordan's GNP in a matter of months. If there is any country that deserves special assistance in these trying times it is obviously Jordan. And if there is any country that is entitled to have its external debt written off it is also Jordan. On all counts and by all standards, this country belongs to the small league of nations which have been most severely affected and deserves urgent support.

But even then there are persistent signs that Jordan continues to be victimised not because of any wrongdoing on its part but because of its differing views on the genesis of the Kuwaiti issue and on the most effective way to deal with it. Many promises of aid have been forwarded to Amman but actual assistance has yet to be delivered. With an economy virtually threatened with imminent collapse, the country, government and people can no longer afford pious words. It is not charity we are calling for. Rather the Kingdom deserves and is entitled to compensation for direct and indirect losses sustained because of its adherence to the will of the international community and U.N. resolutions. The minute the U.N. ordered the observance of sanctions against Iraq, a legal responsibility ensued from that resolution to compensate countries whose economies were damaged by it. Otherwise suffering states would become absolved legally from respecting such mandatory resolutions of the Security Council which entail economic consequences. The least that Jordan would expect from the international community is to heed the recommendations of the U.N. secretary general's personal representative on the debt problem and cancel Jordan's external debts. This could be an important first step that could be built on and followed by other measures needed to avert economic collapse and political devastation.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily on Sunday urged the Soviet Union and France as well as all the peace loving powers to pursue efforts to achieve peace in the Gulf and to ignore all voices by warmongers and evil forces wishing to see the region in devastation. Referring to a current Soviet envoy's tour in the region and Europe to try to find a common ground for a peaceful settlement, the paper said that peace is much cheaper to all nations than war which is demanded by the war lords who hope to make millions of dollars in profit by selling weapons. The chance for establishing peace still exists and it is wrong to say that Primakov's current tour is the last opportunity to attain peace which takes some time to achieve under the present circumstances, the paper added.

Many of the stores which are supposed to sell subsidised food commodities like sugar, rice and milk are more often than not unable to supply them to the public, and the customers often go from one shop to another to buy these staples trying to make use of the coupons they have in their possession to obtain food at lower prices, says a columnist in Al Ra'i Sunday. Nazih says sometimes the customers give up and end up keeping the coupons at home without any chance of making use of them to acquire the basic food commodities they need. It should be noted says the writer, that the coupons are only valid until the end of the year when the Ministry of Supply intends to issue a new set to the consumers, and therefore something has to be done by the ministry to ensure that most if not all stores have sufficient supplies for the public's needs. The writer draws attention to the fact that certain shopkeepers have been in the habit of concealing food supplies, claiming that the ministry has not provided sufficient quantities. He urges the Ministry of Supply and its various departments to see to it that the process of selling subsidised commodities is running smoothly and not causing inconvenience to members of the public.

Al Dastour daily said that the United States seems finally to have been persuaded that Jordan has sustained heavy damage to its economy as a result of the embargo imposed on Iraq, and decided to call for assistance to the Kingdom. There is no need at this stage to cast doubt on Washington's policies in this particular question, although the Jordanians feel indignant about American Naval Forces practices being exercised on Jordan's foreign trade, the paper said. However, there is not much cause for the Jordanian people to have confidence in America's statements about assistance to Jordan nor in Washington's call on its allies to extend such assistance, especially in the light of the U.S. decision Saturday to reduce American economic assistance to Jordan at a time when it decided to offer Israel \$700 million worth of military aid, the paper added.

Weekly Political Pulse

NOTWITHSTANDING the many disclaimers, both distant and near, natural or induced, of the Saudi Arabian Defence Minister Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz's remarks last week that territorial compromise between Iraq and Kuwait could be on the cards, such promising hints remain to be the most positive basis yet for any peaceful resolution of the Kuwaiti situation.

What adds credence to the words of Prince Sultan is the magnanimous record of Riyadh on territorial disputes between Arab countries, having rectified and adjusted its frontiers with Jordan, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates at its own expense. In so doing Saudi Arabia had demonstrated more than ever its commitment to the proposition that all Arab countries are but part and parcel of the one Arab homeland and that in this context it is of little consequence which Arab state controls what of this great Arab homeland. Had Kuwait entertained

a similar perspective about Arab nationalism, it would have saved itself as well as the entire Arab world and the international community from the existing Gulf conflict which threatens to destroy the very fabric of this aspired Arab homeland and wreak havoc with international peace and security.

As a matter of fact, and as revealed by His Majesty King Hussein recently, Riyadh puts the blame squarely on Kuwait for precipitating the crisis in the Gulf in the first place. It has yet to be confirmed if Washington in particular stood behind this Kuwaiti intransigence in a bid to create the Gulf crisis.

In this vein there are persistent reports that the U.S. may have wittingly or unwittingly encouraged Baghdad to move against Kuwait in the first place. It will be recalled that

Riyadh has the key

military experts have since concluded that it should have not passed the American surveillance know-how to have seen the Iraqi invasion unfolding before its very eyes much before it had happened. The U.S. satellites in orbit over the entire Gulf region must surely have seen Iraqi troop movements. When the records of the talks between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and the U.S. ambassador to Baghdad on the eve of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2 are taken in consideration, the picture that emerges from all these fragmented informations tells a horrifying story of a possible U.S. involvement in the precipitation of the Gulf crisis from A to Z.

Thus the first order of business is to get President Bush off the back of Saudi Arabia in order to allow Riyadh a real opportunity to

roam freely the horizon for a possible political settlement of the Kuwaiti situation. The more one thinks of the ongoing Gulf conflict the more one gets convinced that the key to the whole mess is in the hands of His Majesty King Fahd provided he is given the opportunity to act freely. It is not certain now, how much free hand Riyadh does enjoy in this search for a peaceful and brotherly settlement of the Gulf crisis in view of the fact that thousands of foreign troops are stationed on its soil. The sheer physical weight of this massive military presence surely erodes — somewhat at least — Riyadh's ability to manoeuvre freely in the quest for a peaceful resolution of the Kuwaiti situation.

And if, as insisted by many knowledgeable people, U.S. troops were on their way to Saudi Arabia even before Riyadh had an

opportunity to invite them or not, then one may conclude that the leadership of Saudi Arabia may have lost the momentum to act in the best interest of its country. The fact that Washington and London rushed to disclaim the veracity of Prince Sultan's positive statements on the framework of a possible peaceful settlement of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti territorial disputes even before Saudi Arabia itself had a chance to put the record straight augurs badly to the ability of Riyadh to rid itself of the pressures that it is being subjected to by its self-proclaimed Western allies.

This makes the matter of understanding the dilemma of Saudi Arabia and appreciating its encirclement all the more pressing and urgent by the Arab World. If only Baghdad and Riyadh can enter into

some sort of direct contacts without the inhibiting factors now in place in the region, there would be limitless opportunities for both capitals to rectify past errors of judgment and assessments. Unfortunately neither Washington nor London would acquiesce to such inter-Arab dialogue. The mere mention of a territorial compromise by Riyadh brought forth the fury of both capitals on the entire Saudi leadership. It is hard to imagine how such capitals would want to tolerate such a dialogue between Iraq and Saudi Arabia much less to promote it. It appears that Washington and London have developed a vested interest in maintaining tension in the Gulf region. It seems such tension would open up for them many windows of opportunities both economic and strategic. Until and unless both countries can be undocked from Saudi Arabia there is not much chance for Riyadh to sue for peace in the Gulf on its own true terms.

U.S. politicians face angry electorate in upcoming vote

By Alexander G. Higgins
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. politicians are running scared as angry Americans threaten to reject many office holders in the Nov. 6 elections.

At stake are all 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, 34 of the 100 seats in the Senate and 36 of the 50 state governors.

Public opinion surveys show that voters are upset about Washington's failure to curb government spending and the plans to raise taxes as the country teeters on the edge of recession. The polls show increasing disaffection with Republican President George Bush in particular and the Democrat-controlled Congress in general.

Resentment over the decision by Congress last year to raise members' pay from \$89,500 a year — much more than most Americans earn — to more than \$120,000 flared anew this month when Washington politicians wrangled over deficit spending.

The deficit, annually in the \$200 billion range during the 1980s, rose above \$200 billion for the past fiscal year.

Even such well-established senators as Mark Hatfield have had to campaign hard for re-election because of voter backlash against Washington.

Some states have proposals on the ballot that would limit the time politicians can remain in office. Other initiatives would limit state government spending and taxes.

In most election years Congress would have adjourned in early October so that members could return to their home districts to campaign, but this year they seem more inclined to delay confrontations with voters. A federal budget agreement would allow them to go home for the final few days before the vote.

Bush can be glad that he doesn't have to run again until 1992, and he can take some comfort from the knowledge that his predecessor and mentor, Ronald Reagan, also suffered in the polls two years into his presidency, when the U.S. economy was in a recession.

Because incumbents have the advantage in the U.S. political system, major changes in the two-party balances of both houses of Congress are unlikely. But several key politicians are endangered, and others face far stronger challenges than are typical for "off-year" (non-presidential) elections.

Three prominent members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee are among those in danger of losing their seats. In a race judged too close to call, Democrat Claiborne Pell, the 71-year-old chairman, is being challenged by Congresswoman Claudine Schneider, 43, in Rhode Island.

Democrat John Kerry, a leading critic of Reagan policy in Latin America, faces Massachusetts voters angered by the state's economic downturn and state government budgetary mess. Hostility to outgoing Gov. Michael Dukakis, the 1988 Democratic presidential candidate, is spilling over to affect Kerry, who is being challenged by Republican Jim Rapoport.

The governors, the top elected officials in state government, have less immediate impact on national government, but this year they and state legislatures will be redrawing congressional districts based on new population figures.

Pakistani elections results signal worsening relations with U.S.

By Carol Giacomo
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The United States has a hard road ahead as it seeks workable ties with Pakistan's new government and may not be able to obtain the assurances it has demanded for curbs on Islamabad's nuclear programme, U.S. officials and congressional sources say.

The nuclear assurances are a prerequisite to continued U.S. aid to Pakistan, which has been suspended, and there seems to be increasing acceptance in Congress that the funds may not be restored, several sources told Reuters.

The elections, in which ousted former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was defeated, stirred up much campaign rhetoric about U.S. interference in Pakistan's affairs and this attitude may be difficult to overcome, they said. The Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), one of whose leaders heads the caretaker government that replaced Bhutto's, emerged as the big winner in Wednesday's elections with 105 of the 217-seat National Assembly, the lower house.

The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) won only 45 seats, less than half of the 93 it captured in 1988 elections that made Bhutto the Muslim world's first elected

woman prime minister.

Bhutto said massive fraud deprived her of victory but an international observer team sent to monitor the polls said on Friday it found no evidence to back those claims.

The State Department, which said it would be guided by the international observers, on Friday called the team's conclusion preliminary and deferred final judgement on the election.

But one U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters it seemed the level of fraud did not invalidate the poll results.

By law, the president must certify by Oct. 1 that Pakistan did

Other considerations aside, Washington would be less apt to continue giving Pakistan \$500 million a year if the election were judged a massive fraud.

The extent to which Pakistan accepts the results will colour Washington's reaction. Hence, the official said it was important Bhutto had not called her supporters to massive street protests.

Other considerations aside, Washington would be less apt to continue giving Pakistan \$500 million a year if the election were judged a massive fraud.

The aid cut-off has hurt Pakistan and halted shipment of millions of dollars worth of F-16 fighters to the military.

With the war in neighbouring Afghanistan no longer a flash-

not have a nuclear device. When Bush could not, Congress refused to waive the law and aid for 1991 was suspended.

The aid cut-off has hurt Pakistan and army chief remain the same. "So despite the fact there is a new government, I think it's a long shot that Pakistan will do what it has to do to qualify for certification."

The congressional aide was pessimistic such concerns could be met.

"There is no reason to believe any of the politicians who could become the next Pakistani prime minister would be any more forthcoming on the nuclear issue than Benazir was," particularly given the anti-American tone of the recent campaign, he said.

Moreover, the president and army chief remain the same. "So despite the fact there is a new government, I think it's a long shot that Pakistan will do what it has to do to qualify for certification."

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A Nobel Prize received by a man used to giving

By Ceci Connolly
Associated Press

BOSTON — In the early days of kidney transplants the Murray children weren't allowed to talk on the telephone for more than a few minutes at a time.

Keeping the lines open for possible organ donors was frustrating for the household of teenagers, but they knew it had to be important.

It was, and their father, Joseph Murray, shared this year's Nobel prize for medicine with E. Donald Thomas of Seattle, a transplant specialist who developed a leukemia cure.

The award announced Oct. 8 recognises Murray's pioneering work in kidney transplants. The 71-year-old surgeon performed the world's first successful organ transplant — a kidney from one identical twin to another — at the Peter Bent Brigham hospital on Dec. 23, 1954.

The household telephone regulations, explained his eldest daughter, illustrated two of Murray's lifelong commitments: his family and his patients.

"Our father was good about letting us know what he was doing and the courage of the patients," said Virginia Murray Boyle, who now lives down the street from her parents in Wellesley, a Boston suburb. "He tried to make us appreciate the simple things in life."

In fact, as Murray performed that first successful operation on Ronald and Richard Herrick, his family was gathered in prayer at home.

"My mother called us in to say a prayer for the courageous and new type of operation," Boyle said. "Many people didn't think he should be doing it, but my

mother said he was doing his best."

At age 5, his second child, Meg, hardly understood the significance.

"All I knew was my father wasn't around much that Christmas," she said from her home in California. "We knew he was trying to make kidneys work, but we had no idea it would lead to livers and hearts and lungs."

At times, Murray said it was more difficult convincing doctors of the promise of organ transplants than the public. Today, however, the significance is recognised.

"It was more than just a technical feat," said W. Hardy Hendren, chief of surgery at children's hospital. "What Dr. Murray did was truly a shot heard 'round the world..."

His colleagues describe Murray as a determined, soft-spoken, eternal optimist.

Nicholas Tilney, director of transplant services at the Brigham and Women's Hospital who was a resident when it was called the Peter Bent Hospital, described Murray as a teacher and mentor.

"I learned mostly by his example, one-on-one," Tilney said. "I recall one time a patient of his died in the middle of the night and he took the trouble to come and talk to the family. Normally, residents would do that kind of thing."

When one of Murray's kidney patients gave birth to her first baby, Murray was in the delivery room. Some patients have kept in touch with Murray for decades.

Born in Milford in 1919, Murray attended Holy Cross College in Worcester and Harvard Medical School. He was an intern at the Peter Bent hospital before serving

in the army.

"Soldiers often died because they had no skin of their own to be grafted to the burned areas," Murray said in a medical journal in 1985. "And therein lay the challenge — if only we could transplant skin from other persons to the burn victims, these soldiers might live."

Skin grafting was impossible at the time because scientists hadn't discovered a way to counteract the body's inclination to reject someone else's skin. Murray speculated that kidneys would be easier to transplant because they have larger blood vessels to connect.

From his early successes, Murray went on to perform the first kidney transplant from a brain-dead person and founded the International Kidney Transplant Registry.

After 20 years in the transplant field, Murray returned to his first love: plastic surgery. He made a name for himself as a leader in reconstructing facial deformities, particularly in children.

Although a perfectionist devoted to medicine, friends and family said Murray has always found time for a variety of interests.

Every year he took July off to spend with his wife, Virginia, and their six children, often camping in front of their car, Meg recalled.

He climbed the Matterhorn for his 50th birthday and has trekked through the Himalayas with his wife several times.

Even a stroke at 67 did not hinder the energetic Murray.

When his friend Tilney visited him in the hospital a few days after the stroke, Murray was already at work on an article to inform doctors what it's like to be a patient.

'Ugly Arab' image rides high in films

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S. films and television programmes are perpetuating stereotyped images of the "ugly Arab" and fueling anti-Arab sentiment in America, experts say.

"Insidious portraits of Arabs are embedded in the American psyche," says mass communications expert Jack Shaheen, "because (U.S.) motion picture and television writers have presented negative images of Arabs for decades."

Shaheen, who has monitored U.S. films and television plays featuring Arab for more than two decades, sees parallels between the ugly screen image of Arabs and the image of the Jew in Nazi-inspired German propaganda films.

Such assessments are widely shared by Americans of Arab descent. They say anti-Arab sentiment rooted in vicious stereotypes has bubbled to the surface in every Middle East crisis, from the 1967 and 1973 Arab-Israeli wars to the 1985 hijacking by Palestinians of the cruise liner Achille Lauro.

The present Gulf crisis, prompted by Iraq's seizure of Kuwait in August, is no exception.

Organisations representing the Arab-American community report a spate of anti-Arab incidents although spokesmen credit President George Bush with helping prevent a major racist backlash.

Bush declared in September that Americans should not judge all Arabs by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein who, he said, had violated traditions of Islam and of Arab hospitality by attacking another Muslim country and taking hostages.

But one top-level statement is unlikely to dilute prejudices that have been formed over decades, says parallels between the ugly screen image of Arabs and the image of the Jew in Nazi-inspired German propaganda films.

Since the early days of the films industry, Shaheen told Reuters, screen scenarios have focused on the "rich, corrupt, dimwitted, sneaky, hook-nosed, fat, oily and oversexed sheikh."

The 1921 film, "The Sheikh" starring Rudolph Valentino, established a formula that has been imitated often: Arabs live in the desert, ride camels, fight

among themselves and buy women at slave markets.

The modern screen version of The Sheikh uses vast riches from oil to undermine the American economy and influence foreign policy.

In the 1970s and 1980s, the archetypal sheikh was joined by the archetypal terrorist, a Palestinian portrayed as an inhuman killer whose terror is directed at innocent Europeans, Israelis and Americans.

These textbooks give no room to the vast majority of Arabs who have never ridden a camel, slept in a tent, owned oil wells or staged terrorist attacks.

As part of his research into the power of stereotypes, Shaheen recently asked 293 secondary school teachers from different U.S. states to name any humane or heroic screen Arab they had seen. All but six said "none."

According to Shaheen, there is no motivation for filmmakers and TV writers to change the image of the "ugly Arab" because it is successful at the box office and attracts TV viewers.

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination committee and other organisations representing 2.5 million Americans of Arab descent, one of the most affluent and educated minorities in the United States, have repeatedly complained about stereotyping in the entertainment industry — without success.

"Films distorting the image of Jews or blacks have become rare," said Khalil Jahan of the National Association of Arab Americans. "But, where Arabs are concerned, nothing has changed."

One reason, Arab Americans say, is that very few Americans of Arab descent work in the film and television industry and even fewer have positions that would allow them to correct the image.

Another reason is silence. Politicians or scholars rarely speak up because they fear that criticism of Arab stereotypes could be misconstrued as being pro-Arab and anti-Israel, a damaging label in the United States.

A third reason, according to Shaheen, is lack of knowledge about the Middle East among both filmmakers and their audiences.

The Anti-Discrimination committee's log of incidents related to the Gulf crisis provides a graphic example of violence fuelled by ignorance. Angry Americans mistook an Iranian-born citizen for an Iraqi and beat him up so severely that he suffered a fractured skull.

Children turned into monsters

By Victor L. Simpson
The Associated Press

up to cocaine deals and armed robberies.

NAPLES — In the squalor of the city and the shadow of Vesuvius, part of a generation has been abandoned to crime.

They are the children who act as lookouts, run drugs and sometimes carry guns for the Camorra, the Neapolitan crime organisation. Lately, they also have been caught in the cross fire.

There is no firm estimate of their number, but Deputy Police Chief Matteo Cinque says thousands of youngsters are involved with the Camorra in Naples and the dense belt of blighted towns around the port city.

It is a metropolitan area of more than 2 million people, a part of Italy unseen by tourists who board the ferries to Capri and Ischia.

Cinque says the children generally begin their criminal careers with purse snatches, then move

to national territory.

— Premier Giulio Andreotti's speech to the UNICEF children's summit in New York. He quoted a 9-year-old girl whose schoolmate was killed by the underworld in Calabria.

Experts say up to one-third of the 400,000 school-age children in Campania, in the Naples region, don't go to school at all or attend only occasionally. Half the children in Italian reform schools are from Campania.

Several recent developments have focused the attention of Italians on crime, particularly as it affects the young:

— The killings of children as young as 8 in the Naples area, in attacks linked to the Camorra, and the suspicion that one gunman was a boy of 15.

— The assassination of an anti-mafia judge in Sicily that led President Francesco Cossiga to say organised crime "seems to have taken control of part of the

national territory."

— Premier Giulio Andreotti's speech to the UNICEF children's summit in New York. He quoted a 9-year-old girl whose schoolmate was killed by the underworld in Calabria.

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More than 60 per cent of the 1,055 murders committed in Italy in the first eight months of 1990 occurred in Sicily, Campania and Calabria — the power bases of the mafias, Camorra and a Calabrian crime gang.

Dictator Benito Mussolini suppressed the Camorra, but Vito Genovese and other American gangsters revived it after World War II.

Since the defeat of major crime

kings, who portrayed themselves to the poor as Robin Hoods, the Camorra has broken down into dozens of competing "clans."

"There is no 'cupola' said Cinque, the police chief, using the word for the mafia hierarchy, so there are no rules.

"In Sicily the aim high," he said, citing the judge's murder. "Here they aim low, even for 50 grammes of heroin."

Pao Longobardi, the 8-year-old killed in Castellammare Di Stabia last month, was shot by men who were after his father. Investigators believe Andrei Esposito, 12, was killed because he witnessed the slaying of two men in a Casoria fruit market.

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sources of income, mainly in cocaine trafficking.

In Acerra, a town of 50,000 on a crumbling highway 19 kilometres from Naples, a church is still in ruins from the 1980 quake. A Roman Catholic bishop in the cathedral across the street led a crusade against the Camorra and has helped drive it out of Acerra, at least for the moment.

Bishop Antonio Riboldi says it is a question of changing people's attitudes, of getting them to speak out and denounce criminals.

He complained of complicity at various levels, but said comments by a member of the senate anti-mafia commission were particularly galling. The Bishop quoted the legislator saying the area was a "monster" where no one could live.

"Isn't that the state talking?" the bishop said. "And what is the state doing to eliminate the monster?"

there would be no such aggression in the future," the agency said.

An Iraqi tanker was boarded by U.S. marines Sunday after two warships fired warning shots across its bow when it refused to stop, U.S. navy officials said.

For the first time during the sea blockade against Iraq, two warplanes from the carrier USS Independence flew six low-level passes near the ship as part of the interception, navy spokesman J.D. Van Sickle said.

The ship was released, however, after a search party conducted an inspection and found no goods banned by United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

"No prohibitive cargo was found, and the ship was allowed to proceed. It is now underway,"

The vessel Amuriyah was intercepted at about 3:30 a.m. local time (0130 GMT) in the North Arabian sea.

U.S. commander predicts 'long war, awful' casualties

(Continued from page 1)
Saddam Hussein: Get out of Kuwait — no conditions.

Bush said he had spoken earlier Saturday to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

It was the second time in three days that Bush and Mubarak have conferred by telephone. Bush gave no details of their conversation.

White House Spokesman Marvin Fitzwater told reporters on Friday that Bush had called the Egyptian president and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Thursday for a general discussion of the Gulf situation.

Asked if the United States had underestimated the size and capability of Iraqi forces, Bush said: "I think it's true that (Iraq) beefed up its forces and (its) armour in Kuwait from the original number."

"There's nothing to negotiate other than acceptance of the U.N.-mandated resolutions (calling for a complete Iraqi withdrawal)," he said, adding: "Mr.

minute. We're going to do what we've got to do to protect American life or Egyptian life or in this instance Syrian life or Saudi life. That's why you're seeing a substantial movement of U.S. force and forces of other countries," he said.

In other developments:

— The Gulf will erupt into an "inferno" unless a diplomatic solution is found to the crisis within a week, the head of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) said Sunday.

"We are in the eye of the storm," said Abdullah Bishara, secretary-general of the council as its foreign ministers began an emergency meeting in the Saudi capital.

Sheikh Khalifa also told a weekly cabinet meeting that the GCC should seek guarantees against further attack from Iraq.

GCC states should work for the "liberation of Kuwait and the return of its legitimacy," the official Gulf News Agency quoted him as saying.

"This should also be followed by guarantees for the security and stability of the region, so that

many villas and apartments are available for rent and sale — furnished or unfurnished.

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Jordan Times

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Soviet

(Continued from page 1)

Gorbachev arrived in Paris for an overnight visit on his way home from Spain for talks with French leaders and the signing of an "unprecedented" treaty of cooperation.

His discussions with President Mitterrand were expected to be dominated by the Gulf crisis.

Gorbachev arrived after a three-day visit to Spain and was

met at Orly airport south of Paris by Mitterrand and other French officials.

They were holding a working dinner at the Elysee Palace while French and Soviet government officials and academics signed four other accords on cooperation.

Late Saturday Moscow postponed the Security Council vote on a resolution that would make Iraq responsible for war damage in Kuwait and could lead to "war crimes" trials against Iraqi leaders.

Unbridled wins Breeders' Cup Classic Tragedy eclipses brilliance at Belmont Park

NEW YORK (AP) — Tragedy eclipsed brilliance Saturday on racing's greatest day in the Breeders' Cup at Belmont Park.

Go For Wand, the superb 3-year-old filly, and Mr. Nickerson died.

Meadow Star, the 2-year-old filly, glistered like her name. Lester Piggott, the great English jockey, rode like the master he is.

The day ended with dusk falling and Kentucky Derby winner Unbridled bursting between horses about 50 metres from the wire to win the \$3-million classic. The 3-year-old colt achieved his victory without the diuretic lasix, which prevents bleeding from the lungs and on which he has run most of his races.

That victory immediately followed In The Wings' win in the \$2-million turf.

Go For Wand was fighting to keep Bayakoa from taking the lead when she snapped her right ankle and crashed to the track just a stride inside the sixteenth pole in the Breeders' Cup Distaff. Her jockey, Randy Romero, also crashed to the dirt. He was taken from the track in an ambulance, but returned to ride later in the \$3-million classic.

Bayakoa went on to win her second straight distaff, then was greeted in the winner's circle by her tearful trainer, Ron McAnally.

"I can't cope with this," McAnally, a Hall of Fame trainer, said. "It's like my wife, they give their lives for our enjoyment."

Go For Wand, who had won five straight races and seven of eight previous starts this year, struggled up and staggered down.

the stretch, collapsing just past the finish line.

There, behind screens to shield the crowd from seeing her distress, she was humanely destroyed. Hundreds of people left Belmont Park after Go For Wand was destroyed.

Rose Badgett, the wife and assistant to trainer Billy Badgett, blamed the track for the accident.

"This has to come under serious review," said trainer D. Wayne Lukas. "There is something wrong here. I am not a track superintendent, but too many horses are breaking down and not just Breeders' Cup horses."

"You can't blame the track," McAnally said. "The inside is the worst part of (any) track. Not because it is unsafe because it is a tough place... there are several factors involved in a horse breaking down."

After Meadow Star's impressive victory in the Juvenile Fillies, owner Carl Icahn said, "You've got to love this horse. You don't get many like her, maybe once in a lifetime, and this may be mine."

Mr. Nickerson dropped dead on the turn during the running of the Six-Furlong Sprint: Shaker Knit fell over Mr. Nickerson, but escaped serious injury.

Jose Santos, who rode Mr. Nickerson, returned to win the Juvenile Fillies on Meadow Star and the juvenile On Fly So Free. Chris Antley, who was aboard Shaker Knit, suffered a broken right collarbone.

Meadow Star, a 4-year-old filly who was second in the sprint last year, won the race this time when Dayjur, who had an eyelash lead,

jumped a shadow about 25 metres from the wire. Dayjur, who had done all his previous racing in Europe, finished second, a head behind the filly.

Piggott, returning to racing recently after serving a year and a day in prison for income tax evasion — he was released in October 1988 — scored his victory with a brilliant ride on Royal Academy, who started from the no. 1 hole, broke third, then circled the field and won a cavalry-charge finish by a neck over Itsallgreekone. It was a masterful exhibition by the 54-year-old Piggott, who has won most of the world's great races and has been British champion many times.

Rounding out the seventh Breeders' Cup day programme, under a glaring sun, were the \$2 million turf and the \$3-million classic.

The unbeaten Meadow Star broke from the no. 10 post in the 12-horse Juvenile Fillies and Santos kept her on the outside because "I was taking no chances."

Meadow Star moved into contention on the turn and flew past Dance Smartly at the top of the stretch, and the race was over.

"She has so much class that she beats them even though she was tired," Santos said following Meadow Star's five-length win over Private Treasure, who was one length in front of Dance Smartly.

Meadow Star carried scale weight of 119 pounds over 1 1/16th miles in 1:44 and paid \$2.40 to win. Her seventh victory

was worth \$450,000, which will go to the Children's Rescue Fund for homeless children, founded by the filly's owner, Carl Icahn.

Safely Kept and Dayjur battled through the length of the stretch in the Six-Furlong Sprint.

The victory made up for Safely Kept's second-place finish in the 1989 sprint to Dancing Spree, who finished sixth in the 13-horse field Saturday. Black Tie Affair was third, four lengths behind Dayjur.

Actually, the duel between Dayjur and Safely Kept began out of the gate. Safely Kept, ridden by Craig Perret, led for the first one-quarter-mile, gave up the lead to Dayjur and finally got it back.

"We had the race won," said Willie Carson of Britain, who rode Dayjur. "I wasn't going all out. He's better at Five Furlongs than Six Furlongs, so I had to be careful... and then jumped. He jumped in the last race, too."

"I don't know if she would have won if he doesn't jump," said Safely Kept's trainer, Alan E. Goldberg.

The victory, which paid a winning mutuel of \$26.40 and was worth \$450,000 for Safely Kept, was the second in the sprint and third in a Breeders' Cup race for Perret.

Fly So Free won the 1 1/16th-mile Juvenile over Take Me Out. Fly So Free dueled with Take Me Out in the upper stretch before breaking away to a three-length win. It was the first Breeders' Cup victory for veteran trainer Scotty Schulhofer, who had saddled 11 previous Breeders' Cup horses.

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AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE

Results — Oct. 26, 1990

First Round of the Cup

Tots	0 v 1	Westinghouse
Intercontinental	0 v 1	Westinghouse
Pan Am	3 v 1	Marion
Juniors		
UPS	1 v 0	Peugeot
National Steelers	0 v 3	Comcast
Aqas Shipping Co	0 v 2	7 Up
National Paints	0 v 0	AIIC
(AIIC won 3 v 2 on Penalties)		
Mids		
Al Hikma	2 v 5	GEMT
Pepsi	3 v 2	Jordan Book Centre
Seniors		
Danish Dairy	0 v 6	Unichem
Pink Panther	2 v 1	Volvo

Bayern Munich moves ahead in Bundesliga

BONN (R) — Defending champions Bayern Munich, back on form after a poor start to the season, crushed Eintracht Frankfurt 4-1 away to pull ahead at the top of the German Bundesliga.

Four days after beating Bulgaria's CFKA Sredets Sofia 4-0 in a European Cup second-round, first leg match, the Bavarians moved one point ahead of Kaiserslautern and Werder Bremer with their league win.

Roland Wohlfarth, who hit the first goal in the 6-1 win over Hamburg which put Munich back on course last week, scored first against Frankfurt as well, heading in a pass from Hans Pflueger in the 28th minute.

It was Wohlfarth's seventh goal of the season.

Five minutes before half time, Danish international Brian Laudrup extended the lead to 2-0.

Stefan Effenberg scored in the 64th minute and Juergen Kohler ended Munich's scoring spree in the 76th.

Dieter Eckstein scored a consolation goal for Frankfurt in the 82nd minute.

Frankfurt, who were surprisingly beaten 1-0 by struggling Hertha Berlin last week, slipped from third to fifth place, three points behind the Bavarians.

Frankfurt coach Joerg Berger said: "A defeat of this dimension naturally hurts. Bayern played like champions."

Kaiserslautern, level on points with Bayern before Saturday, drew 1-1 against Wattenscheid while Werder Bremen beat St. Pauli 1-0 Friday to extend their unbeaten run to nine games.

Cologne defeated Bayer Uerdingen 3-1 to move up one place to fourth in the standings.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY OCTOBER 29, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

means by which you can be your most effective and gain headway at this time.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) This is the day when financial matters of all sorts should occupy your attention and you can uncover new opportunities to add to your income.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get into whatever promises you have made and see what you can do to get rid of them in a manner that brings much benefit to you personally.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) You have excellent judgement today and know just what to do to please an influential person who is in a position to aid you gain your objectives.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 18) Consider well how you can persuade a confidential advisor of prominence, how you can gain more success through your usual activities.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A highly placed friend is in a position to release to you the information you need to proceed with a project of real importance.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Basic interests that have to do with making conditions at your home more in accord with the various outside obligations you have can be well worked out.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Consider how you can utilize some recent information you have acquired to add to your present cornucopia of benefits and charm a newly ally.

Capriati, Garrison advance to Puerto Rico Open final

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Second-seeded Jennifer Capriati used an overpowering baseline game to oust no. 6 Gigi Fernandez, 6-2, 6-1 in the semifinals of the \$150,000 Puerto Rico Open Saturday.

Top seed Zina Garrison also advanced to the finals with a 6-4, 6-4 win over Carrie Cunningham to set up a Capriati-Garrison final.

Capriati continually attacked Fernandez's second service hitting effective winners down the line.

"I was having a great day," Capriati said. "I wasn't serving well so I was attacking her second serve. I was having a good day with my groundstrokes so I went with that."

Fernandez was never in the match as she double faulted seven times and hit numerous forehand volleys into the net.

"She (Capriati) was doing everything well," Fernandez said. "Once she got her rhythm going, she didn't miss anything."

Capriati closed the match with a big service return to Fernandez's backhand, but Fernandez's sailed it long.

Garrison employed a fast game from the baseline to oust un-



Zina Garrison

Africa to debate Pretoria's return to world sports

NAIROBI (R) — A Kenyan sports official has said South Africa's return to world sport would depend on the outcome of talks planned for Zimbabwe in November.

Tom Omuombo, secretary of the Kenya Olympic Committee, said more than 100 delegates of the African National Olympic Committees would discuss the issue at a meeting in Harare on Nov. 3.

"The delegates' recommendations will be studied by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) before a decision is taken to readmit South Africa to international sport," he said in an interview.

South Africa was expelled from the Olympic movement after the 1960 Rome games.

Omuombo said before South Africa reenters the world arena several conditions would have to be fulfilled.

In one of the most dramatic matches of the two-week tournament,

Italy, led by Andrea Gardini and Stefano Marzulli, roared back to gain a 2-1 edge in games by improving its returns and setting, and controlling play at the net with tough blocking and spikes.

But Brazil, led by team standouts Paulao and Mauricio, brought the crowd to its feet with a series of tough serves and spikes to tie the match at two sets apiece.

Both teams traded points in the seesaw fifth game, but Italy nailed down the match by winning the last two points.

In the second semifinal contest, Cuba came back to defeat the Soviet Union.

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Both teams traded points in the seesaw fifth game, but Italy nailed down the match by winning the last two points.

In the second semifinal contest, Cuba came back to defeat the Soviet Union.

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Gulf crisis takes toll on L. American economies

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Recent predictions of rapid economic growth in Latin America will have to be scaled back due to the Gulf crisis, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) President Enrique Iglesias said.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank estimates of a 3.6 per cent growth rate in 1991 and 3.5 per cent in 1992 were made before oil prices shot up after the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

"Some negative adjustments will have to be done," he told a news conference at IADB headquarters, where he presented the regional bank's annual report.

For every dollar increase in the price of a barrel of oil, the bill for Latin American and Caribbean importers jumps by \$400 million a year.

Brazil, the region's biggest crude importer, has to spend an extra \$300 million a month at the current price of about \$34 a barrel.

Most countries in the region suffered a sharp fall in real wages, exports earnings and living standards during the 1980s, whereas the region's total debt grew by 75 per cent to \$420 billion.

Still, deep-rooted changes are taking place in Latin America and the region has reason to expect moderate growth in the 1990s, Iglesias said.

Nicaragua, hard hit by a civil strife, was the worst case of the century.

"lost decade" of the 1980s with its foreign debt growing by 300 per cent to \$8.67 billion in 1989 from \$2.17 billion in 1980.

Poverty has pushed 40 million Latin American women into labour market whereas quality of life at home has been declining through governments' cuts in health, education and other services.

The IADB said that Latin America must continue free-market economic programmes advocated by the United States if the region is to be fully integrated into the global economy.

In its report, the bank also said that getting rid of poverty is essential to the future of participatory politics in the region.

Eliminating poverty "is an enormous task" the report said, that will require creative coordination between public and private sectors.

The Economic Commission for Latin America, the bank's sister organisation, estimated in 1989 that 44 per cent of the people in Latin America were poor — nearly 183 million people.

The United States has provided \$21.1 billion to the Washington-based bank since it was set up in 1959 in partnership with Latin American nations.

The economic commission is a United Nations think tank for Latin America, based in Santiago, Chile.

Now that all Latin American nations have democratically

elected governments, the Bush administration has said it is time for them to move away from state-controlled economies with bloated bureaucracies that strangle private enterprise.

U.S. President George Bush has suggested that Western countries interested in building up a market economy form a free-trade zone. He plans to visit Mexico next month to formally open negotiations and in early December is scheduled to visit Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Venezuela and Argentina.

The economic transition to free market economies has been painful for many Latin American nations because it eliminated benefits such as subsidies for housing, hospitals, transportation, electric power, phone services and almost all other major public services.

Welfare policies were based mainly on borrowed money. The welfare policies collapsed in 1983 when most Latin American countries found they were unable to repay credits.

The development bank said: "The state will continue to be called upon to respond to the special need of vulnerable groups; the issues will be how effectively it can deliver services, how effective it can reach intended target populations, and how well it can work with, or complement the activities of, the private sector to improve productivity."

Non-OPEC member Egypt and its foreign partners export about half of the country's daily production of 870,000 barrels a day (b/d).

Kandeel said higher fuel prices at home have for the first time forced consumption to drop by three per cent this year to 11 per cent, freeing more oil for export.

Egypt, burdened by a foreign debt of \$50 billion, has almost lifted subsidies on local energy, raising the price twice this year.

A litre of 90 octane fuel now sells for \$30.65.

The minister predicted a Gulf crisis stand-off for several months, but said any war with Iraq could be long, doubling oil prices to \$65 a barrel.

He said oil prices would fluctuate between \$25 and \$35 a barrel, the present range, but could rise to \$65 if war broke out.

After the Gulf crisis was resolved "prices in the 1990s" — as of late 1991 early 1992 — will settle at minus or plus \$25 a barrel," he said.

Although world markets have lost more than 4.5 million b/d due to the U.N. embargo on Iraq and Kuwait, Kandeel said there was no international shortage.

"The crude is enough but enough for what? for peace or war?" he said, explaining that if war broke out markets would suffer shortages due to stockpiling and forced production cuts by Gulf Arab states.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest exporter, is producing nearly three million b/d above its Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) quota of 5.38 million b/d to help prevent a shortage.

Her colleagues had no such worries. They spelled out in detail the terms and the timetable for the next moves and said they were sure Thatcher would eventually rejoin the majority — as she has after other disputes on the pace of union.

The formal statement said the second stage of monetary union would start Jan. 1, 1994, when a

new EC central banking system would be created to assume control of monetary policy.

Stage one, involving closer policy coordination, began last July.

The 11 listed the conditions needed for stage two to begin, including completing the EC's planned single market, ensuring that national central banks were free from political control and outlawing the financing of budget deficits.

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Community leaders on whether they should proceed to fixing exchange rates "within a reasonable time."

A single currency would then be only a small step away.

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Egypt set to double oil income

CAIRO (R) — Debt-burdened Egypt is expected to double its oil earnings to \$2 billion because of the Gulf crisis, lower local consumption and higher fuel prices at home, Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandeel says.

The minister told Reuters in an interview Saturday Cairo would earn that sum from oil by the end of June 1991, almost double its revenue for the previous fiscal year.

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Congress gives final approval to U.S. budget deficit package

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Senate passed the massive, 1,100-page clean air act by an 89-10 vote, with most of the opposition coming from members representing heavily industrialized states. The legislation was hailed as "a long overdue step" to clear the air of toxic pollutants.

Major civil rights, campaign finance and crime measures were left unfinished as lawmakers headed home to campaign for the upcoming November elections.

The Senate voted 54-45 to embrace the budget compromise, the centerpiece of a \$496 billion deficit-reduction plan that was approved hours earlier by the lower House of Representatives. President George Bush said he

should sign it into law.

The package, the fruit of six months of negotiations, was originally designed as a \$500 billion deal.

Just before dawn Saturday, the House approved the budget 220-200, with the support of most Democrats and a few Republicans. Some representatives criticised the plan's taxes and others lauded its whack at federal red ink.

The package followed with approval Saturday afternoon. Even with the plan, the federal deficit will remain formidable. The red ink for the fiscal year is expected to reach a record \$254 billion, even with the \$40 billion in savings the budget would produce.

The bill envisions that the overall federal debt is expected to soar from just over \$3 trillion to nearly \$5 trillion over the next five years.

Opponents objected that farmers would be hit too hard and that the measure imposed a new burden on taxpayers do not need.

"You're going to see the working, struggling people of this country will be hit by increased taxes and fees," said Senator Trent Lott, a Republican.

But after 10 months of intense and partisan budget warfare, exhausted lawmakers said it was time to close the deal.

Tired and testy, the lawmakers also pushed to complete work on a host of bills before adjourning.

The House worked out some last-minute snags on Senate-passed legislation embracing the first major overhaul of the nation's legal immigration system in a quarter-century, and the bill was passed and readied for dispatch to the White House.

Income tax rates: Eliminates 33 per cent rate on families of two or more earning \$80,000 to \$200,000 annually and 28 per cent rate on those earning more, replacing them both with a 31 per cent rate starting Jan. 1, 1991.

Alternative minimum tax: This tax, paid by the wealthy who have a large number of deductions, is being raised from 21 per cent to 24 per cent.

Capital gains: Sets the maximum capital gains tax rate at 28 per cent, instead of the same rate as ordinary income, starting Jan. 1, 1991.

Debts: Decreases income tax deductions for those earning more than \$100,000. Deductions would be reduced by three per cent of the income above \$100,000. For example, earnings of \$150,000 would have the first \$1,500 of deductions disallowed, starting Jan. 1, 1991.

Luxury tax: 10 per cent luxury tax on amount of price over \$30,000 on cars, \$100,000 for boats, \$250,000 for airplanes and \$10,000 for furs.

Airplane ticket tax: Air passenger tax of up to \$12 per round trip may be imposed by the nation's 71 largest airports, with permission of the secretary of transportation.

The bill permits up to \$70 million in humanitarian aid to the Afghan people.

Petrol taxes: Raises federal petrol taxes from nine cents to 14 cents a gallon, starting Dec. 1, with half going to the Highway Trust Fund and half to reduce the budget deficit.

Medicare health insurance: Cuts \$42.5 billion over five years. Expands medicare, health insurance for the elderly; makes incomes up to \$125,000 — up from current \$54,300 — subject to a 4.6 per cent payroll tax; annual deductible increased from \$75 to \$100 in 1991 and monthly medicare premium rises to about \$46 by 1995.

Child care: Provides \$715 million over five years for grants to states for child care and other grants. The states must use the money to provide direct child care services and improve child care.

Earned income tax credit: Adjusts credit for family size and provides a new child health insurance tax credit for low income earners.

Phase-out of exemptions: The personal exemption of \$2,050 will be phased out for individuals earning over \$100,000 and families earning over \$150,000. The phase-out for families will be completed at an income of \$275,000.

Oil and gas exploration tax breaks: Tax breaks worth \$2.5 billion over five years proposed to encourage oil and gas exploration when the price of oil falls below \$34 a barrel and fully phased in at \$38 a barrel. Oil closed Friday at below \$34 a barrel.

Alcohol and tobacco taxes: Taxes on hard liquor increase by \$1 to \$13.50 per proof 3.3 litres (gallon). Taxes on 750-millilitre bottles of wine go up from three cents to 21 cents; taxes on beer from 16 cents to 32 cents for six bottles; taxes on tobacco up by 25 per cent, raising the price of cigarettes by eight cents a package for 1993.

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Under the legislation, El Salvador's military aid would be eliminated entirely if the government of President Alfredo Cristiani failed to pursue peace efforts or failed to investigate thoroughly last November's murders of six Jesuit priests, or if there were a military coup.

The House approved the bill by a vote of 188-162. The Senate approved it without a vote.

The Egyptian debt, incurred between 1979 and 1984, would be cancelled in a series of steps beginning with its "written-off" to a value of \$670 million.

Egypt, a key U.S. ally in the

U.S. lawmakers pass foreign aid bill, forgive Egypt's debt

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Congress Saturday completed action on a bill forgiving Egypt's military sales debt of nearly \$7 billion and sent the measure to President George Bush for his signature.

The \$14.7 billion foreign aid bill also cuts El Salvador's \$35 million in military aid by half and attaches condition under which it could either be fully restored or eliminated.

Bush administration officials had earlier threatened a presidential veto if the El Salvador provi-

tion remained in the bill but Mickey Edwards, the senior Rep-

publican on House of Repre-

sentative Foreign Aid Subcom-

mittee, said the administration now strongly supported the measure.

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Bhutto party routed in provincial elections amid charges of rigging

ISLAMABAD (R) — Ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) suffered an electoral massacre Sunday in provincial polls amidst charges of ballot-stuffing and vote-rigging.

As results of Saturday's violence-marred polling for four provincial assemblies were announced, Bhutto lost even her last power base in her home province of Sind.

Her opponents in the nine-party Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) won a landslide to retain the most populous Punjab province and gained a majority with an allied party in the North West Frontier province.

No group was in majority in the largest but least populated Baluchistan province.

At least 23 people were killed and 47 injured in gun fights across the country during Saturday's polling.

The blow to Bhutto followed her crushing defeat in last week's national elections which she said were massively rigged by the IDA-led caretaker government.

But a group of international observers said it found no evidence to support the charges.

"There was a very systematic and sophisticated manner in

which they have rigged the elections," a spokesman for the PPP-led People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) said in the Punjab capital Lahore about the provincial elections.

"A mockery has been made of the right of franchise," PDA Secretary-General Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri told a news conference, alleging stuffing and switching of ballot boxes and arrest of PPP polling agents by the authorities.

Government officials deny the charges.

Kasuri said Bhutto and other alliance leaders would meet their winning and losing candidates at Islamabad on Nov. 3 to decide whether to accept or reject the election results.

The PPP ruled locally in Sind, North West Frontier province and Islamabad before President Ghulam Ishaq Khan sacked Bhutto's 20-month-old national government on Aug. 6 for alleged corruption and ordered fresh elections.

As Bhutto rested in Lahore from a fever, her detained husband, Asif Ali Zardari, predicted a "long war" of politics as he appeared before a court in the Sind capital Karachi.

"We have to fight a long war,"

he told reporters before the court sent him to Karachi's high security Central Prison after 18 days of police custody. "We are prepared for it."

Zardari, a businessman who was elected to a National Assembly seat in Wednesday's elections, was arrested on Oct. 10 for alleged involvement in extortion and illegal bank loans when Bhutto was in office, charges, he denies.

Bhutto and several former colleagues face charges of abuse of power before one-judge tribunals empowered to disqualify them from assemblies and jail them for up to seven years.

In the provincial elections, the PDA fell four short of a majority in Sind province, winning 47 of the assembly's 100 Muslim seats at stake, election officials in Karachi said.

The anti-PPP Mohajir National Movement (MQM) captured 28 seats in Sind, the IDA six and independents 18, most of whom won against the PPP. An anti-PPP nationalist group got one seat.

The PPP had won 207 seats of the Punjab assembly when results for 233 were declared from a total of 240 at stake.

Sind's caretaker Chief Minister

Jam Sadiq Ali, a former Bhutto confidant, won a provincial seat and political sources said he would try to form the next provincial government.

A son of caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi escaped an attempt on his life in his home town of Nawabshah in Sind, police said. Election officials said the son, Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, defeated a PPP candidate by a huge margin to win a seat in the Sind assembly.

"You can give them advice, but you should not pressure," he said. "Any intervention in Cambodia, militarily, diplomatically is not good," he told reporters at an early morning airport news conference.

Thach said Prince Norodom Sihanouk, titular leader of Cambodia's guerrilla coalition, and Prime Minister Hun Sen, heading the Phnom Penh government the alliance is trying to overthrow, had agreed on how to divide power on a new Supreme National Council.

"Sihanouk and Hun Sen have agreed that Sihanouk would be the chairman and Hun Sen should be the vice chairman," said Thach, who is also deputy prime minister.

He said forces loyal to former Cambodian Prime Minister Son Sann, and the Khmer Rouge, ousted from power by the Vietnamese army in 1979 after a four-year reign of terror, remained opposed to giving Hun Sen the vice chairmanship.

"And some foreign country has been opposed to it," he said. "The country who supplied 24 tanks."

Western journalists inside Cambodia earlier this month reported that at least 24 Chinese tanks were in the hands of the radical Khmer Rouge, the dominant military force in the guerrilla coalition.

Diplomats confirmed the presence of the tanks, but pointed out they were shipped to the region long before China and the Soviet Union agreed in September to stop sending arms into Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge charged last week that a Soviet ship laden with weapons and other military supplies had arrived in Cambodia and the cargo was being transported to Phnom Penh.

The Soviet Union, through Vietnam, has been the main backer of the Phnom Penh government, while China has been arming the Khmer Rouge.

Thach said that when Vietnam pulled its troops out of Cambodia over a year ago it had solved half the problem.

"What have the other side done?" he asked. "There are 24 tanks that have come into Cambodia and there is a stepping up of military operations."

"Now, in my opinion, all foreign countries should stop any intervention in Cambodia and let Cambodians solve their own problem in the best way."

Thach, in Thailand for talks with Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan, said he was optimistic that most of the major problems standing in the way of a ceasefire: a necessary step of a United Nations Security Council peace plan, had been overcome.

"The deadlock of the Cambodian problem now is the question of a very simple problem," he said, referring to power-sharing on the National Council. "It is not a long-term issue but is a temporary one and I hope all Cambodian parties can solve their own problem."

Thach said he was in favour of reconvening the Paris international conference on Cambodia, which would bring together U.N. Security Council members, the Cambodian factions and regional powers.

Half the 18-strong cabinet lost their seats in parliament and Labour's overall representation was also halved. Ironically the last time a government received such a comprehensive defeat was

when Labour won power for the first time in 1935.

The government that lost then was a coalition which the following year formed the National Party, the beneficiary of Saturday's huge swing against Labour.

Some said it was the economy, others blamed party squabbles while former Prime Minister David Lange singled out the Greens, born just six months ago as a political party.

Despite outgoing Prime Minister Mike Moore's frantic last-ditch campaign to rally support, Saturday's general election was a catastrophe for Labour.

For a party which once turned the economy upside down while at the same time taking on both the United States and France, Sunday's mood was sombre.

"You couldn't get much more of a disastrous result than this," said party President Ruth Dyson.

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